

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03237 230024Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-05
/118 W

-----094797 231151Z /50

R 222304Z SEP 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5599
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 3237

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, SOCI
SUBJ: 32ND UNGA--HUMAN RIGHTS/TORTURE INITIATIVES

REF: (A) USUN 2339, (B) USUN 2733, (C) USUN 2303,
(D) GENEVA 7926

1. THE DUTCH MISSION HAS PROVIDED US WITH A COPY OF
THE FIRST OF TWO DRAFT PROPOSALS WHICH THEY ARE CON-
SIDERING PRESENTING UNDER AGENDA ITEM 80 ON TORTURE.

2. THE DUTCH HAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO CONSULT WITH US
WITH A VIEW TO COMBINING THEIR PROPOSAL WITH THE ONE
WHICH WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING. THE DUTCH ARE ALSO
AWARE THAT THE INDIAN DELEGATION HERE IS WORKING ON
A TORTURE PROPOSAL ALONG THE SAME LINES AND THEY
WILL ALSO BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THEM TO COME
UP WITH A COMBINED PROPOSAL. THE INDIAN PROPOSAL
IS AN IDEA WHICH ORIGINATED AT THEIR MISSION HERE
AS THEY HAVE NOT GOTTEN A REACTION FROM NEW
DELHI AND ARE AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THEIR GA DELEGA-
TION, THEY PREFER NOT TO DISCUSS THE IDEA TOO WIDELY
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OR TO CIRCULATE A TEXT. MEMBERS OF THE WESTERN GROUP
ARE VERY ENCOURAGED BY THE INDIAN INTEREST IN THIS
SUBJECT SINCE SO FEW INITIATIVES COME FROM THE NON-
ALIGNED NATIONS.

3. MISSION SUGGESTS THAT WE INFORM THE DUTCH THAT
WE ARE PREPARED TO SUPPORT A MELDING OF THE DUTCH,

US, AND INDIAN PROPOSALS AND THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO ABANDON THE QUEST FOR A SPECIAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS TO INVESTIAGE TORTURE IN FAVOR OF THE LESS CONTROVERSIAL REQUEST FOR A QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE CIRCUALTED TO MEMBER STATES. ALTHOUGH A QUESTIONNAIRE SOLICITING INFORMATION FROM MEMBER STATES IS NOT A EFFECTIVE AS A WORKING GROUP, WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE BEST POSSIBLE COURSE OF ACTION AND THE MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED. A REVIEW OF RESPONSES FROM POSTS ON GOVERNMENT REACTIONS TO THE US TORTURE PROPOSAL MAKES CLEAR THAT THE MAJORITY OF GOVERNMENTS CONSULTED WOULD NOT HAVE VOTED IN FAVOR OF SETTING UP THE WORKING GROUP. MOST RESPONSES APPEAR TO BE POLITELY EVASIVE ON THE TORTURE QUESTION.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT COMMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. COPY OF THE DUTCH PROPOSAL BEING POUCHED IO/HR, HEWITT.
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 22-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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